

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 32 (canceled)

33. (currently amended) A fan having a frame manufactured from ~~a plastics~~ plastic material and incorporating an external rotor brushless DC motor, the motor comprising:

a stator assembly base having a base plate;

the stator assembly base being manufactured from a thermally conductive material;

a winding assembly affixed to the stator assembly base; and

circuitry associated with the motor, wherein the base plate is disposed between the circuitry and the winding assembly and has a side wall depending away from the winding assembly, the side wall being within an air flow generated, in use, by the fan and comprising part of a heat transfer path to dissipate heat away from the motor; and

the circuitry having heat generating components, wherein at least one of the heat generating components is mounted on a printed circuit board and overhangs an edge of the printed circuit board and attaches directly to the base plate hence conducting heat away from the overhanging component into the base plate.

34. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the circuitry is attached to or supported by the base plate.

35. (canceled)

36. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the side wall defines a recess within which the circuitry is located.

37. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the base plate is provided with a cover, the circuitry being located between the base plate and the cover.

38. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the circuitry is housed within an enclosure.

39. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 38, wherein the enclosure is hermetically sealed.

40. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the stator assembly base includes means for supporting the winding assembly.

41. (currently amended) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the circuitry ~~includes is in the form of a printed circuit board having a plurality of components mounted on the printed circuit board, and wherein the printed circuit board has a surface that is adjacent to the base plate~~thereon.

42. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 41, wherein at least some of the components on the printed circuit board are positioned on the opposite surface of the printed circuit board to that adjacent the base plate.

43. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 41, wherein at least some of the components on the printed circuit board are positioned on the surface of the printed circuit board adjacent the base plate.

44. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 41, wherein the components are positioned on both surfaces of the printed circuit board.

45. (canceled)

46. (currently amended) ~~A fan having a frame manufactured from plastic material and incorporating an external rotor brushless DC motor, the motor comprising:~~

~~a stator assembly base having a base plate;~~

~~the stator assembly base being manufactured from a thermally conductive material;~~

~~a winding assembly affixed to the stator assembly base;~~

~~circuitry associated with the motor, wherein the base plate is disposed between the circuitry and the winding assembly and has a side wall depending away from the winding assembly, the side wall being within an air flow generated, in use, by the fan and comprising part of a heat transfer path to dissipate heat away from the motor; and~~

~~the circuitry having heat generating components~~ A fan according to Claim 35, wherein at least one of the high-heat generating components is located proximal an aperture in a printed circuit board, a projection from the base plate contacting the at least one component through the aperture to conduct heat away from the ~~contacted~~ component into the base plate.

47. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the winding assembly comprises a number of multipole stator laminations with windings.

48. (previously presented) A fan according to Claim 33, wherein the motor has a cover plate and the cover plate comprises a part of the fan housing.

49. (previously presented) A fan according to any Claim 33, wherein the stator assembly base is manufactured from aluminum.

50. (currently amended) A fan having a frame manufactured from a ~~plastics~~ plastic material and incorporating an ~~external rotor brushless DC~~ motor, the motor comprising:

a stator assembly base manufactured from aluminum and having a base plate;

a winding assembly affixed to the stator assembly base; and

circuitry associated with the motor, wherein the base plate is disposed between the circuitry and the winding assembly and has a side wall depending away from the winding assembly, the side wall being within an air flow generated, in use, by the fan and comprising part of a heat transfer path to dissipate heat away from the motor; and

the circuitry including a heat generating component extending from a printed circuit board and attached directly to the base plate thereby to conduct heat directly from the heat generating component to the base plate.

51. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the printed circuit board is attached to or supported by the base plate.

52. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the side wall defines a recess within which the circuitry is located.

53. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the base plate is provided with a cover, the circuitry being located between the base plate and the cover.

54. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the circuitry is housed within an enclosure.

55. (new) A fan according to Claim 54, wherein the enclosure is hermetically sealed.

56. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the stator assembly base includes means for supporting the winding assembly.

57. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the circuitry includes a plurality of components mounted on the printed circuit board, and wherein the printed circuit board has a surface that is adjacent to the base plate

58. (new) A fan according to Claim 57, wherein at least some of the components on the printed circuit board are positioned on the opposite surface of the printed circuit board to that adjacent the base plate.

59. (new) A fan according to Claim 57, wherein at least some of the components on the printed circuit board are positioned on the surface of the printed circuit board adjacent the base plate.

60. (new) A fan according to Claim 57, wherein the components are positioned on both surfaces of the printed circuit board.

61. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the winding assembly comprises a number of multipole stator laminations with windings.

62. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the motor has a cover plate and the cover plate comprises a part of the fan housing.

63. (new) A fan according to Claim 46, wherein the stator assembly base is manufactured from aluminum.